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DETROIT, MI

A World Medical Relief official has denied charges that the charity is channeling donations from doctors and hospitals to right-wing military forces in Central America.

John King, vice president of the board of directors of the Detroit-based charity, told the Detroit Free Press Thursday that supplies from the charity's overseas operation are used only for treatment of refugees and other civilians.

His denial came in response to allegations that some groups that distribute supplies from World Medical Relief are helped by the CIA as part of its covert military actions in Central America.

"We are satisfied that (the groups) are not now connected to the CIA, "King said. "Whether they were in the past is another matter." He told the newspaper he did not know if there ever were such connections.